

1 CLAIMS

2
3 I claim:

4 1. A portable container for the temporary storage of clean and sanitary objects known to
5 entertain and comfort babies and small children, with said container being readily attachable to
6 and removed from support surfaces in and around childcare locations, said container
7 comprising:

8 a substantially cylindrical main body having a hollow interior and a wide top opening,
9 said main body also being made in part from open-weave material, with all materials used for
10 construction of said main body being flexible, soft-textured, and washable while at the same
11 time having a sufficient thickness dimension that enables said top opening in said main body to
12 remain open at all times for prompt and direct user access to the sanitary objects stored within
13 said hollow interior; and

14 quick-release fastening means adapted to temporarily and securely attach said main body
15 and objects therein to a support structure, said quick-release fastening means being connected to
16 said main body so that said main body is easily movable from one childcare location to another
17 to make the sanitary objects placed therein readily accessible for prompt delivery to a baby or
18 child in need of one for comfort.

19 2. The device of claim 1 wherein said quick-release fastening means is selected from a
20 group consisting of straps permanently attached to said main body, elongated straps, detachable
21 straps, two-part hook-and-pile fasteners, flattened waistband fasteners, and snaps.

22 3. The device of claim 2 comprising at least one detachable strap and wherein said at
23 least one strap comprises an upper end, and further wherein said quick-release fastening means

1 comprises at least one quick-release two-part first fastener configured for connecting said at
2 least one strap to said main body, and wherein said quick-release fastening means further
3 comprises at least one second quick-release two-part fastener configured for securely forming at
4 least a portion of said upper end of said at least one strap into a looped configuration that is
5 usable in repeatedly attaching and reattaching said main body to baby supporting devices, child
6 supporting devices, and other objects near to childcare locations that are configured for securely
7 supporting said main body by said at least one looped configuration.

8 4. The device of claim 3 wherein said main body has a back surface with at least one
9 vertically extending strip of non-open-weave material, and further wherein one portion of said
10 at least one quick-release two-part first fastener is attached to said vertically extending strip.

11 5. The device of claim 1 wherein said main body has a back surface, and further
12 wherein said quick-release fastening means comprises at least one quick-release two-part
13 fastener with a first part thereof being secured to said back surface, and further with the second
14 part of said at least one quick-release two-part fastener being secured to a support surface near
15 to a childcare location so that said main body is attachable directly to the support surface
16 without the use of any straps.

17 6. The device of claim 1 wherein said wide top opening in said main body is
18 sufficiently large for insertion therethrough of a large adult male human hand.

19 7. The device of claim 1 further comprising markings selected from a group consisting
20 of informational markings and design markings.

21 8. The device of claim 1 further comprising at least one horizontally extending strip of
22 non-open-weave material.

1 9. The device of claim 8 further comprising markings placed on said at least one
2 horizontally extending strip of non-open-weave material and wherein said markings are
3 selected from a group consisting of informational markings and design markings.

4 10. The device of claim 1 further comprising a bottom surface made from non-open-
5 weave material.

6 11. A container for the temporary storage of clean and sanitary pacifiers, teething
7 devices, small toys, and other small baby-related accessories that in a baby's or child's
8 possession are frequently drooled on, dropped on the ground, covered with food, and/or
9 otherwise in need of cleaning prior to being returned to the baby or child, said container
10 comprising:

11 a compact main body configured without sharp corners and having a hollow interior, said
12 main body also having a top opening configured for direct and immediate access of a large
13 adult male hand to baby-related accessories placed within said hollow interior, and said main
14 body further being made in substantial part from open-weave material;

15 at least one strap attached to said main body, said at least one strap having an unattached
16 portion and quick-release fastening means secured to said unattached portion by which said
17 unattached portion is optionally formed into a looped configuration usable for suspended
18 attachment of said main body and its contents to the top rail of a baby crib; and

19 said main body and said at least one strap being made from materials that are flexible,
20 soft-textured, and washable so that without injury to babies and small children said at least one
21 strap is able to temporarily secure said main body to cribs and other baby-holding devices while
22 sanitary baby-related accessories used for entertainment and comfort, which have been placed

1 within said main body, become immediately available to people caring for babies and small
2 children.

3 12. The device of claim 11 wherein said at least one strap is repeatedly detachable from
4 said main body.

5 13. The device of claim 11 wherein said main body has a back surface and further
6 comprising at least one additional two-part fastener attached to said back surface that is
7 configured for directly securing said back surface to a support surface.

8 14. The device of claim 11 further comprising markings on said main body that are
9 selected from a group consisting of informational markings and design markings.

10 15. A method for making a temporary storage container for pacifiers, teething devices,
11 and other small toys that babies and small children often drool on, drop on the ground, cover
12 with food, and/or otherwise need cleaning prior to being returned to the child, said method
13 comprising the steps of:

14 providing a quantity of flexible, soft, and washable non-open-weave reinforcement
15 material, a quantity of flexible, soft, and washable open-weave material, attachment means, and
16 a plurality of two-part quick-release fasteners;

17 using said reinforcement material, said open-weave material, and said attachment means
18 to create a substantially cylindrical main body having a hollow interior, no sharp corners, and a
19 wide top opening, while at the same time placing said reinforcement material in positions on
20 said main body that allows said top opening to maintain its open configuration during use for
21 ready and convenient user access to any contents stored within said main body;

22 using said attachment means to connect a first portion of said two-part quick-release
23 fasteners to said main body; and

1 using said attachment means to secure the second portion of said two-part quick-release
2 fasteners to a support surface in a commonly used childcare location so that without injury to
3 babies and small children sanitary baby-related accessories used for entertainment and comfort,
4 which have been placed within said hollow interior of said main body, become immediately
5 available to people caring for babies and small children.

6 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said quick-release fasteners are selected from a
7 group consisting of adhesives, glues, bonding agents, snaps, two-part fasteners, hook-and-pile
8 fasteners, flattened waistband fasteners, and heat-activated bonding substances, and further
9 comprising a step of securing at least a portion of said quick-release fasteners to said main body
10 in a position where they are used to temporarily and securely attach said main body to a
11 supporting structure.

12 17. The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of providing informational
13 marking means and design marking means, and using said marking means to create markings
14 on said reinforcement material.

15 18. The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of making at least one strap
16 from said reinforcement material and attaching said at least one strap to said main body.

17 19. The method of claim 18 further comprising a step of providing at least one quick-
18 release two-part fastener and a step of securing said at least one quick-release two-part fastener
19 between said main body and said strap so that said strap is repeatedly detachable from said
20 main body.

21 20. The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of making from said
22 reinforcement material and incorporating into said main body additional components selected
23 from a group consisting of vertically extending strips and horizontally extending strips.